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ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE
UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Application of Turkmenistan for admission to membership in the United Nations

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with rule 135 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to circulate herewith the application of Turkmenistan for admission to membership in the United Nations, contained in a letter dated 17 January 1992 from the President of Turkmenistan to the Secretary-General.

ANNEX

Letter dated 20 January 1992 from the President of Turkmenistan addressed to the Secretary-General

Turkmenistan, which I have the honour to represent, is a country with a long history that has played an important role in the development of world culture and science of which ancient Merv has justifiably been considered the centre. However, for a number of historical reasons, the Turkmenian people subsequently lost its statehood, and the restoration of statehood became the cherished dream of the Turkmenian people.

Our people acquired a great deal of experience in nation-building and achieved significant social progress when Turkmenistan was part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. However, rigid centralization in all areas hampered the full development of democratic processes in society and civilized statehood, which was not in keeping with the demands of the times. In that connection, the Declaration on the State Sovereignty of Turkmenistan was adopted on 22 August 1990; the Declaration clearly defined the mutual relations of the Republic with the centre and the Union Republics and prospects for Turkmenistan's independent development.

The general referendum on independence held on 27 October 1991, in which 94 per cent of the population voted for the full independence of Turkmenistan, reflected once and for all the free choice of our people and once again demonstrated its unity, of which we are exceedingly proud. The results of the referendum were unanimously approved at a session of the Supreme Soviet of Turkmenistan.

Today Turkmenistan, which has great economic potential, has embarked on the path of independent development. Turkmenistan exercises full control over its entire territory and is conducting a peaceful policy based on the peace-loving traditions of the Turkmenian people and conforming to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Mr. Secretary-General, allow me, in accordance with the Declaration on the State Sovereignty of Turkmenistan of 22 August 1990, the results of the general referendum of 27 October 1991 and Turkmenistan's desire to become part of the international community, to appeal to you on behalf of the people of Turkmenistan to support the full participation of Turkmenistan in the world community of States.

I request that you consider this letter as the official application of Turkmenistan for admission to membership in the United Nations in conformity with Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Assuming that our request will be granted, Turkmenistan officially assumes, on the basis of this application, its obligations as a Member of the United Nations in accordance with the Charter - obligations that it can and wishes to fulfil.

Turkmenistan would be very grateful if you would consider this request as a matter of priority and allow the delegation of Turkmenistan to participate in the next session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

(Signed) Saparmurat NIYAZOV
President of Turkmenistan